HOUSE No. 859

By Mr. Leary of Worcester, petition of James B. Leary and others for legislation to protect children from persons offering to pay for sexual contact. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Scott P. Brown James B. Leary John J. Conte John D. Keenan Stephen M. Brewer J. James Marzilli, Jr. Edward M. Augustus, Jr. **Shirley Gomes** John J. Binienda Robert F. Fennell Harriette L. Chandler Cynthia S. Creem Robert P. Spellane Michael W. Morrissey Karyn E. Polito Michael E. Festa Jennifer L. Flanagan John A. Lepper Emile J. Goguen James R. Miceli Richard T. Moore Kathleen M. Teahan Kathi-Anne Reinstein

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM PERSONS WHO OFFER TO PAY FOR SEXUAL CONTACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 272 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
- 2 out Section 53A, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, and
- 3 inserting in place thereof the following section:—
- 4 Section 53A. (a) Whoever engages, agrees to engage, or offers
- 5 to engage in sexual conduct with another person in return for a fee
- 6 paid or to be paid by another or to a third person, or whoever
- 7 pays, agrees to pay, or offers to pay any person to engage in
- 8 sexual conduct with that person or with another, shall be punished
- 9 by imprisonment in jail for not more than one year or by a fine of

- not more than 500 dollars or by both such imprisonment and fine,whether such sexual conduct occurs or not.
- 12 (b) Whoever pays, agrees to pay, or offers to pay any person 13 with the intent to engage in sexual conduct with a child under the 14 age of eighteen, or whoever is paid, agrees to pay, or agrees that a
- age of eighteen, or whoever is paid, agrees to pay, or agrees that a third person be paid in return for aiding a person who intends to
- 16 engage in sexual conduct with a child under the age of eighteen,
- 17 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more
- 18 than ten years or in jail for not more than two and one half years,
- 19 whether such sexual conduct occurs or not.